

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 ICA-20 NSC-05 OES-07
OMB-01 AGRE-00 /077 W
-----104985 242030Z /46/14

R 181850Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 818
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USMISSION GENEVA
DEA HQS WASHDC

UNCLAS LA PAZ 3920

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EO, TAGS & SUBJ LINE)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: NEW ESTIMATES OF COCA PRODUCTION IN BOLIVIA

1. INITIAL REPORTS ON TOTAL ACREAGE UNDER COCA CULTIVATION AND
TOTAL PRODUCTION OF COCA WERE RELEASED BY THE GOB NATIONAL COM-
PUTER CENTER ON MAY 16, 1978.

2. BASED ON THE ACTUAL REGISTRATION OF PRODUCERS DURING MAY-
OCTOBER, 1977 THE FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS:

TONS-COCA LEAVES	HECTARES HECTARE IN	YIELD PER KILOS
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LA PAZ DEPARTMENT (INCLUDES YUNGAS-APOLO)	5,691	4,406	1,276
COCHABAMBA (CHAPARE)	19,512	4,713	4,091

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TOTALS	25,203	9,119	2,683.5
	AVERAGE		

3. THE REPORT ADDS 30 PERCENT ON THE BASIS OF EXPERT OPINION AND
FIELD OBSERVATIONS TO THE ABOVE FIGURES TO TAKE INTO
ACCOUNT OBSERVED INCREASES IN PRODUCTION SINCE THE REGISTRATION,

AS WELL AS UNREGISTERED CULTIVATION, RESULTING IN AN ESTIMATED TOTAL YEARLY PRODUCTION OF 32,769 METRIC TONS OF COCA LEAVES CULTIVATED OVER 11,854 HECTARES.

4. THE RECENTLY-COMPLETED MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDY ON TRADITIONAL USES OF COCA ARRIVED AT THE CONCLUSION THAT 11,500 METRIC TONS OF COCA ARE CONSUMED LEGALLY IN BOLIVIA AND AN APPROXIMATELY 1,000 TONS ARE EXPORTED FOR A TOTAL LEGAL CONSUMPTION PER YEAR OF 12,500 TONS. THUS, THE BEST ESTIMATE OF THE AMOUNT OF COCA LEAF BEING DIVERTED FROM LEGAL CHANNELS INTO COCAINE PRODUCTION IS APPROXIMATELY 20,000 METRIC TONS.

5. CONSERVATIVELY, SIX KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE CAN BE PRODUCED FROM ONE METRIC TON OF COCA LEAF. THEREFORE, IF IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL RPT ALL OF THE ILLEGAL COCA IS PROCESSED, BOLIVIA HAS A POTENTIAL FOR EXPORTING THE EQUIVALENT OF 120,000 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE AND COCAINE PASTE. THIS FIGURE DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT SEIZURES, SPOILAGE AND OTHER LOSSES. UNTIL SUCH TIME AS WE MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION OR BETTER ESTIMATES OF ACTUAL EXPORTS, THIS FIGURE SHOULD BE REGARDED AS A HYPOTHETICAL MAXIMUM.

BOEKER

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Message Attributes

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